

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FOREST SERVICE
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The Committee recommends \$285,000,000 for forest and rangeland research, a decrease of \$400,000 below the budget request and \$8,616,000 above the fiscal year 2005 funding level. For clarity, the funding level for the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) program is displayed as a distinct activity. Funding for FIA under this heading is \$62,100,000, \$6,614,000 below the requested level and \$6,174,000 above the fiscal year 2005 enacted level. The Committee notes that an additional \$5,000,000 for the FIA program is provided within the State and private forestry appropriation. There is a total increase of \$6,216,000 for the FIA program above the fiscal year 2005 enacted level.

The Committee recommendation includes all project funding as stipulated in the budget request and supporting documents, with the following exceptions. The advanced housing research consortium receives \$1,500,000, which is \$218,000 above the request. The adelgid research at the Northeastern station receives \$1,600,000, an increase of \$121,000 above the request. The emerald ash borer research project in Ohio receives \$400,000, \$153,000 above the request. The southern pine beetle initiative receives \$2,400,000, \$428,000 above the request. The Coweeta Hydrologic Lab receives \$200,000 for research on reducing impacts of floods and landslides and \$150,000 for technology transfer. Uncontrollable cost increases receive \$6,177,000 above the request. The Montana State University and New Mexico State University Skeen range research projects and the salvage lumber research at the forest products lab are not funded. Funding for the National agroforestry research center is \$727,000, as requested.

The Committee expects to see detailed work plans, including costs and staffing, for the new Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center in Oregon and the Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center in North Carolina, before funding from any appropriation for these new centers is distributed in fiscal year 2006. The Committee also directs the Forest Service to include explicit funding amounts for these two centers in future budget requests, regardless of the accounts involved. The Committee notes that these centers should, as provided in the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, focus primarily on hardwood forests and the threats from insects and disease which could destroy thousands of valuable acres of timberland and alter landscapes throughout surrounding areas. The centers should rely on emerging remote sensing technology and geospatial modeling.

Bill Language.—The Committee recommends continuing bill language earmarking a specific allocation, \$62,100,000, for the forest inventory and analysis program.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

Through cooperative programs with State and local governments, forest industry, conservation organizations, and non-industrial private forest landowners, the Forest Service supports the protection and management of the nearly 500 million acres of non-Federal forests in the country. Technical and financial assistance is offered to improve wildland fire management and protect communities from wildfire; control insects and disease; improve harvesting and processing of forest products; conserve environmentally important forests; and enhance stewardship of urban and rural forests. The For-